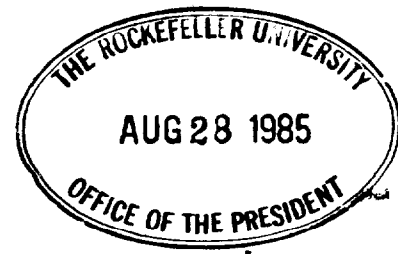


NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE WASHINGTON, D. C. 20418



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 26, 1985

Dr. Robert L. Sinsheimer
Chancellor
University of California
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter of August 6 regarding the Academy's Committee on International Security and Arms Control (CISAC). The Committee, which was chaired by Murph Goldberger, is now chaired by Wolfgang Panofsky of the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center.

CISAC shares your concern about biological weapons, and this issue was an agenda item during CISAC's most recent meeting with its counterpart delegation from the Soviet Academy of Sciences in June 1985 in Moscow. Joshua Lederberg, a CISAC member, made a formal presentation on biological weapons at the meeting. David Hamburg also spoke on the subject. I understand that the Soviets received Lederberg's presentation well and that a useful discussion ensued. Particular emphasis was placed on the potential of biotechnology for providing a new dimension to the arms race, one that should not be permitted.

CISAC intends to continue its dialogue with the Soviets on biological weapons. In fact, a smaller bilateral working group on BW may be established and may meet in Moscow this fall to continue discussing the issue.

I am sure that Josh Lederberg would be happy to provide you with more detailed information on the talks that took place in Moscow. Thank you for expressing your concern about the issue and your interest in CISAC's contribution.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Press
President

cc: Wolfgang Panofsky
✓ Joshua Lederberg
Marvin Goldberger

bc: Victor Rabinowitch